

Please find below, Utah State Parks and Recreation news for November 18:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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- Bicycling Representative Sought for Trails Advisory Council
- Holiday Festivities at Willard Bay
- Youth Personal Watercraft Classes Available Statewide
- State Park of the Week: Scofield State Park, Host of Third Annual Ice Fishing Tournament
- Upcoming Utah State Parks Events

BICYCLING REPRESENTATIVE SOUGHT FOR TRAILS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Salt Lake -- Utah State Parks and Recreation is currently seeking a representative to serve on the Utah Trails Advisory Council, and to specifically represent the interests of bicyclists. Applications will be accepted through Thursday, January 1.

This council reviews non-motorized trail project fiscal assistance requests and makes recommendations to state parks staff and the Board of Utah State Parks. The nine-member advisory council consists of representatives from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), USDA Forest Service, Utah League of Cities and Towns, Utah Association of Counties and members representing hikers, bicyclists, equestrians, Nordic skiers, and one member-at-large representing the interests of non-motorized trail users in general.

For more information or to apply for this position, please contact Utah State Parks Trails Coordinator John Knudson at johnknudson@utah.gov or (801) 538-7344.

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HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES AT WILLARD BAY

Willard - Willard Bay State Park hosts Fantasy at the Bay, a drive-through holiday light display November 22 through December 31. Display hours are 5:30 to 10 p.m. nightly. Admission is \$7 per vehicle Tuesday through Thursday and \$9 Friday through Monday. Utah State Park passes are not valid during light display hours.

The Cottonwood Campground is filled with animation, lighted trees, roadway lights and displays. Visitors may drive through the display or ride on a horse-drawn hay wagon at no additional cost. A concession service offers cocoa, hamburgers, chili, scones, s'mores and other items around a large campfire. To reach Willard Bay State Park, take Exit 357 off I-15.

For more information, please call Fantasy at the Bay at (435) 734-9294 or (435) 237-9506 or Willard Bay State Park at (435) 734-9494.

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YOUTH PERSONAL WATERCRAFT CLASSES AVAILABLE STATEWIDE

Salt Lake -- Though winter is approaching quickly, Utah State Parks and Recreation still offers youth personal watercraft (PWC) courses statewide. PWC are JetSki and WaveRunner-type boats. Students must pre-register for classes.

Youth age 12 to 17 are required by state law to take a safety class prior to operating a PWC on Utah waters. To pre-register or for more information about Utah boating programs, please call 1-800-743-3792 (1-800-RIDE-PWC).

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STATE PARK OF THE WEEK: SCOFIELD STATE PARK, HOST OF THIRD ANNUAL ICE FISHING TOURNAMENT

Scofield - Located along the beautiful and winding Huntington-Eccles Scenic Byway and nestled high on the Wasatch Plateau, Scofield State Park offers some of the best fishing in the state, with great ice fishing during winter months.

Join Scofield State Park staff Saturday, December 27 for its Third Annual Ice Fishing Tournament. Registration is limited and required by calling (435) 687-2491. The cost is \$13 per entrant. Check-in begins at 6:30 a.m. with the tournament beginning at 7 a.m.

A prize is awarded for the biggest fish, along with drawings for door prizes, and free hot chocolate and hot dogs for everyone who participates.

Scofield is one of the top three fisheries in the state with excellent rainbow and cutthroat trout populations. The park offers two campgrounds, a lakeside picnic area, boat ramps and courtesy docks.

Scofield State Park is an ideal base camp to explore the Manti-La Sal National Forest with connecting routes to the incomparable views of Skyline Drive and Arapen Off-Highway Vehicle Trail.

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UPCOMING UTAH STATE PARKS EVENTS

December 13 Antelope Island State Park - Syracuse

Hike with a Naturalist: Join the park naturalist on a four-mile hike and learn more about the brine shrimp industry on Great Salt Lake. This is an easy hike along Lakeside Trail. Participants should meet at the Lakeside Trailhead in White Rock Bay at 11 a.m. (801) 721-9569

December 20 Wasatch Mountain State Park - Midway

Basic Bird Identification: Join the park naturalist from 9 a.m. to noon at the visitor center to learn bird identification. If you enjoy birds, but have never tried to identify them in the field or simply need a refresher course, this class is for you. No birding experience is necessary. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them, and dress to be outside for part of the time. (435) 654-1791

December 22 Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum - Blanding

First Day of Winter Hike: Enjoy the quiet secrets of the winter season on this hike to Holly Ruin at Hovenweep National Monument. Rock art at Holly may have been used to mark seasonal activities. Join the archeologist and curator for this activity, which leaves from the museum at 9 a.m. This event is free, however space is limited. (435) 678-2238

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